

2006 Local Accomplishments

■ **Aid for Towns in the 15th Senate District** In an effort to help keep local property taxes down, the following state grants have been secured for the 15th District this session:

Total Education Grants	133,824,261	This funding is an increase of \$3,649,694 over last year's total
Town Aid Road Fund (TAR)	922,078	
Mashantucket Pequot/Mohegan Grants	5,227,716	
Local Capital Improvements (LoCIP)	1,574,095	
Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)	13,329,200	
Extra Property Tax Relief for 2006	3,134,483	
Totals	158,011,834	

In addition to my efforts on statewide issues, the following summarizes my work more specific to the 15th District:

- **Naugatuck Valley Community Technical College Construction** Worked to secure Bond Commission approval for the construction of a technology building at the college.
- **Retiree Benefit Protection** Co-sponsored legislation to prohibit municipalities from eliminating or diminishing retiree health insurance benefits.
- **Waterbury Branch Line Transportation**
 - \$45 million for capital improvements on branch lines
 - \$70 million for design & engineering on I-84 between Waterbury and Danbury
 - \$25 million for the rehab of rail passenger coaches for use on branch lines
- **Shepaug River Project** Worked with the Greater Waterbury delegation to secure \$3.5 million for the Shepaug River legal settlement and for upgrades to the reservoir dam in an effort to ensure the adequate flow of water along the river and throughout the Greater Waterbury area.
- **Hospital Fund** Supported the initiation of a new hospital fund and worked to secure an additional \$11 million to support urban acute care hospitals.
- **Waterbury Health Access Program (WHAP)** Initiated an effort to secure \$250,000 in conjunction with the Waterbury delegation for the continuation of WHAP, a coordinated effort of 300 Waterbury area physicians who provide healthcare coverage, prescription drug, and disease management to the uninsured.
- **W. F. Kaynor Technical High School Project Gets Underway** \$54.5 million will be spent for additions and renovations to the existing W.F. Kaynor Technical High School. This project will also include reconstruction of athletic fields, parking lots and roadways and is set to begin by early July.
- **Naugatuck YMCA** Spearheaded the initiative to secure \$300,000 in Urban Act money for the Naugatuck YMCA capital campaign and, in coordination with the delegation, \$600,000 from the Small Cities Block Grant.
- **Prospect Water Line Extension** \$365,000 for the extension of the water line to the College Farms community.



Throwing out a pitch at the Naugatuck High School Softball Field that was built with state funding I helped to secure.

A Message to My Constituents



Dear Friends and Neighbors:
I write to provide you with a summary of the 2006 legislative session of the Connecticut General Assembly. As you may have noted, this year's session was the shortest in recent memory. Nonetheless, much was accomplished.

Highlights of the 2006–2007 bipartisan budget include: a total of an additional \$3,649,694 to Waterbury, Naugatuck and Prospect to help reduce local property taxes; an increase in the property tax credit for individuals; the elimination of the property tax on manufacturing machinery and equipment; and, a new tax credit for the restoration and rehabilitation of historic properties.

Of equal importance was the full funding of the '06–'07 state Teachers' Retirement Fund and a \$350 million earmark for the state Rainy Day Fund, while remaining under the spending cap.

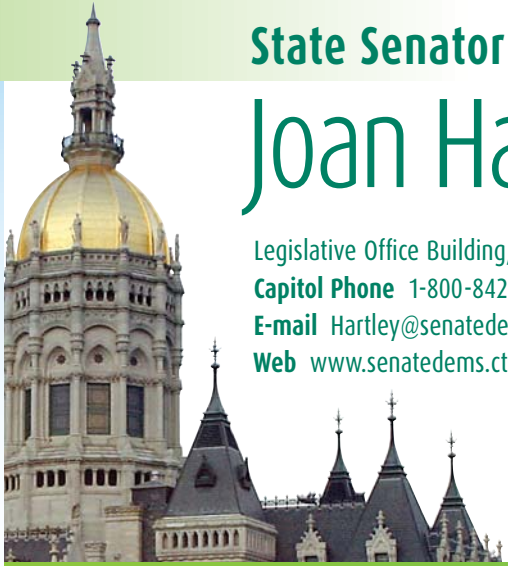
Despite the short session which was limited in scope by the '06 joint legislative rules, significant legislation was adopted and is briefly summarized here.

Personally, it is most rewarding to work with and have the support of the many individuals and community groups of the 15th Senatorial District. I am honored to represent you in Hartford and am eager to continue our work together.

Sincerely,
Joan V Hartley
Joan Hartley
State Senator, 15th District

Stay Informed...

For the latest information on the issues affecting your district, please visit my Web site:
www.senatedems.ct.gov/Hartley.html



State Senator

Joan Hartley

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I'm proud to represent the 15th state Senate District which includes the communities of Naugatuck, Prospect and Waterbury

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2006 Legislative Initiatives



STATE SENATOR JOAN HARTLEY 15TH DISTRICT



Above left: Opening day at the Peter J. Foley Little League Field in Naugatuck. Above: I had the honor to meet and congratulate UConn women Huskies at the Capitol for another outstanding season. Left to right: Renee Montgomery, Charde Houston, Nicole Wolff, myself and Ketia Swanier

- As the Senate Chair of the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee, I worked to craft legislation that:
- Secured funding for a mathematics and science advanced studies initiative for high school students to attend our community colleges
 - Provided funding for meaningful employment for at-risk youth with emphasis on summer employment
 - Worked to provide additional safeguards for students attending Connecticut private occupational schools in the event of a closure
 - Established a loan forgiveness program designed to encourage engineering and doctoral graduates to work in Connecticut
 - Established Connecticut as a leader in the field of nanotechnology—an industry which works on molecular levels to improve numerous products involving such areas as manufacturing, pharmaceuticals and medicine

Working for Connecticut’s Future



Umbilical Cord Blood

A new law establishes a committee to examine the possibility of Connecticut establishing a public umbilical cord blood bank. Umbilical cord blood, rich in stem cells, holds great promise for treating and possibly curing diseases.

Hospital-Acquired Infections

A new law will create a reporting system, providing the public with necessary information to compare infection rates at health care facilities in Connecticut. The system may also provide information about methods used to prevent the spread of infection.

Tax Credits for Historic Structures

Our state has many older, historic structures that are now vacant and in desperate need of rehabilitation. We passed legislation that authorizes \$15 million per year in business tax credits for funds spent rehabilitating these properties for residential use.

Minority Education and Health Professions

This year we provided \$200,000 from the Tobacco and Health Trust Fund to help support the Health Professions Partnership Initiative at the UConn Health Center. The partnership was formed to help address the under-representation of some minority groups in the health professions and corresponding over-representation of certain diseases in these groups.



Capitol Scholarships

This year I fought to expand college aid for middle and lower income students who graduate in the top 20% of their class or who get better than 1800 on their SATs. By increasing the Capitol Scholars program by a third to \$8.8 million, the money in this year’s budget will help more students who work hard and earn good grades to attend college.

Service Medals

In 2005, the General Assembly passed legislation to authorize the design and awarding of ribbons and medals to Connecticut’s veterans. These medals are intended to be a visible symbol of the gratitude and pride we feel for the efforts of our veterans. Now that final design and production are complete, the state has begun to award these medals. If you served in our military during a time of war, were honorably discharged and were either a Connecticut resident at the time of duty or are currently a Connecticut resident, you may be eligible for this recognition. For further information please call the Department of Veterans’ Affairs at 1-866-928-8387, extension 5916. Or you can download the application from the Department of Veterans’ Affairs’ Web site at www.ct.gov/ctva.



Apprenticeship Training Tax Credit

The legislature extended to nonunion businesses the corporation tax credit for hiring construction trade apprentices in a four-year apprenticeship program. Tax credits under the program will be awarded at the completion of the four-year program. The new law also sets the credit limit at \$4,000 over the first four years, or 50% of the apprentice’s wages, and doesn’t allow the corporations’ apprenticeship tax credit to exceed their tax liability for the year.

LOCAL HEROES



In April my colleagues and I honored Waterbury residents who volunteered with the American Red Cross and travelled to Louisiana to assist with relief efforts following Hurricane Katrina. From left to right: Steve Traver, Judi Winters, Rich Winters, Carol Karcheski, Robin McCarthy, Nelson Medina, myself and Bob Brown.